

no small influence upon the native customs of Amalfi and even of Naples, did they not also aim at dominion in the hinterland itself. Nor can we call them Greek in any definite sense inasmuch as their populations were mainly of Italian stock, of Italian speech, and living by Roman law.

Lombards and Italians were not the only races in South Italy which might be called native. Sicily of course contained a preponderating Moslem population, with an understratum, of Greeks surviving in the eastern part of the island, On the mainland four centuries of Byzantine ascendancy had left a large Greek-speaking population. In Apulia, indeed, Hellenisation had not proceeded far; the Lombards, backed by the free states, preserved their race and speech; veterans of the imperial troops were seldom pensioned off upon the land; in the towns such as Bari, and in the towns alone, does there seem to have been any considerable Greek element. But round the Gulf of Taranto, and in the toe of Italy, Greek influences were all-powerful. The whole of Calabria, the southern part of Lucania, the coast from Brindisi to Taranto and Otranto, the valleys of Agri and Sinno contained a population

completely
Greek. The reigns of the Iconoclastic
Emperors
775-867 had resulted in great numbers
of noncon-
forming monks abandoning Greece and
settling in
Greek Italy, where the Greek language,
law, and
Church struck their roots deeply. In
these dis-
tricts Greek was the language of
administration,